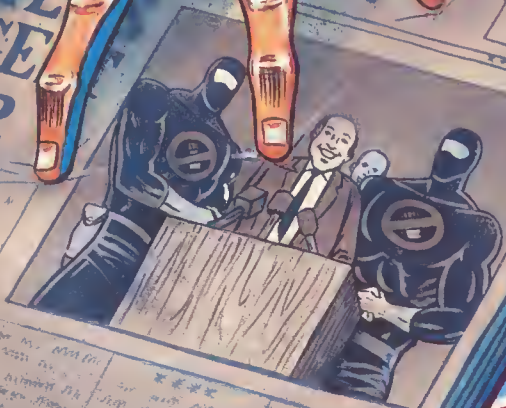


# CRACK BUSTERS

THE  
CRACK  
BUSTERS  
MUST **DIE!**

CRACK  
MAKE  
BUST  
EVER



TIM  
TV BUS

# HOW TO RECOGNIZE SIGNS OF CRACK USE

## LAST ISSUE



**After personal tragedy, Robert Wilson becomes the Crackbuster with the aid of his old high school friend, Alex Saforza. After initial success, Robert is trapped by some drug pushers. He is about to be killed when Alex, who had followed Robert intervenes and saves his life. Becoming the Crackbusters, Robert and Alex begin their relentless war on drugs. They are so successful that the Kingpin of the drug trade calls in an assassin: THE MECHANIC.**

I hope you enjoy our series. Whether you do or not, though, please write to let us know. The address is: CRACKBUSTERS 2174 Tibbetts Wick Rd., Girard, Ohio 44420. I promise all letters will be read carefully.

Thank you,  
Paul C. Simione

There are physical and mental changes that indicate you may be in trouble with drugs. Check the following list and see if you or someone you suspect is abusing drugs or alcohol.

### **PHYSICAL AND MENTAL SYMPTOMS OF ADDICTION**

- increased or decreased tolerance for drugs
- bumps and bruises
- puffiness of face or extremities
- red face, red nose
- swollen nasal membrane
- sudden vision difficulties
- enlarged liver
- blackouts
- frequent infections
- chest and heart problems
- digestive problems
- lingering colds and flu
- high blood pressure
- signs of bad nutrition
- tremors
- changes in reflexes
- dizziness
- loss of coordination
- slurred speech
- confusion and slow comprehension
- memory loss
- insomnia
- loss of appetite
- delirium

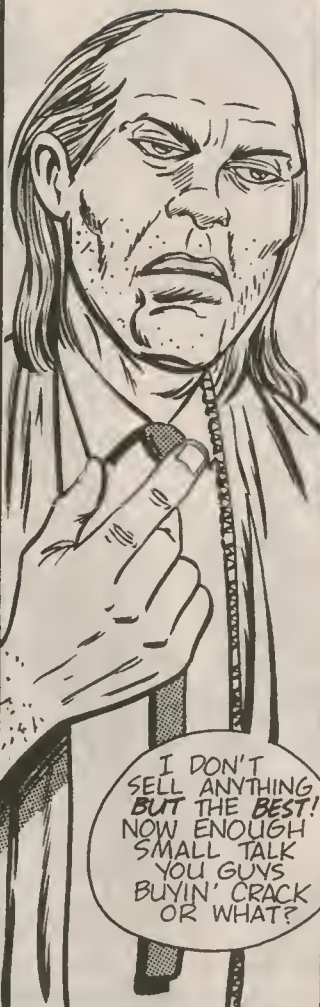
*Special thanks to Dr. James Giannini.  
Dr. Giannini is an authority on Crack abuse.*





SO, IS  
THE  
STUFF  
ANY  
GOOD?

IS THE  
STUFF  
ANY GOOD?  
'COURSE IT'S  
GOOD STUFF.



I DON'T  
SELL ANYTHING  
BUT THE BEST!  
NOW ENOUGH  
SMALL TALK  
YOU GUYS  
BUYIN' CRACK  
OR WHAT?



HOW MUCH  
CRACK  
DO YOU  
WANT?

HEY, WHERE  
YOU GUYS  
GOIN'?

WE CHANGED  
OUR MINDS!

LET'S GET  
OUTTA  
HERE.



GUESS  
WHO?!!

I REALLY HAVE TO  
WONDER ABOUT HOW  
SMART YOU PEOPLE  
ARE WHEN ARE YOU  
GOING TO LEARN  
THAT IF YOU DEAL  
CRACK, SOONER OR  
LATER YOU  
DEAL WITH US.

THUD

AAA

YEEEOOWW!







WITH CRACK USE REACHING FRIGHTENING PROPORTIONS, TWO MEN HAVE SAID, "ENOUGH!" ALEX SAFORZA AND ROBERT WILLIAMS HAVE VOWED THE STREETS OF ILLEGAL DRUGS. THEY DO THIS IN THEIR GUISE OF THE...

# CRACK BUSTERS

## ENTER: THE MECHANIC!

I SEE YOU HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN YOUR GYMNASTICS TRAINING. THAT WAS A GREAT MANEUVER!

TA-DAA!

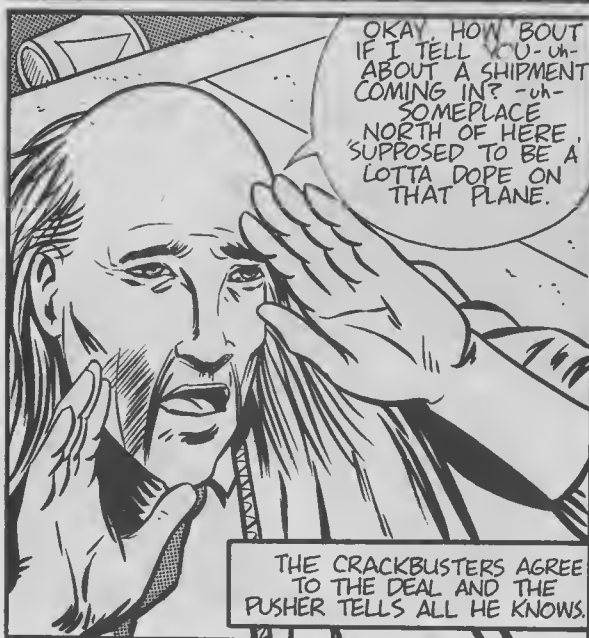
WHAMPPPP!

STORY- PAUL SIMIONE

ART- DAVE SCHWARTZ

INKS- BRIAN MOORE

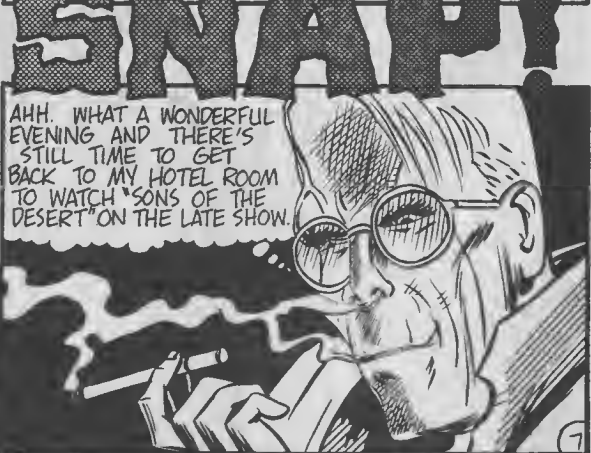
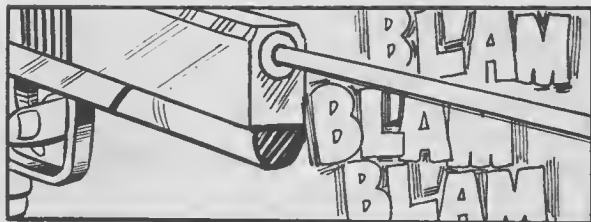
















THE NEXT MORNING FINDS THE CRACKBUSTERS IN THEIR CIVILIAN GUISES OF ALEX SAFORZA AND ROBERT WILSON.



"FIRST, ROBERT, I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET ANDREW CULLIN. ANDREW IS OUR VICE-PRESIDENT OF FINANCE."



NEXT IS RICHARD ASHBURN, V.P. OF SALES AND MARKETING"



"ACROSS THE TABLE IS VINCE D'AMICO, HEAD OF RESEARCH."



"LAST IS KATHY MITCHELL. KATHY IS IN CHARGE OF OUR PERSONEL DEPT."



EVERYONE- THIS IS ROBERT WILSON, ROBERT... EVERYONE.

THANK YOU, ALEX. AS I'M SURE YOU ARE ALL AWARE, DRUGS AND ALCOHOL, ON THE JOB HAVE BECOME A MAJOR PROBLEM.

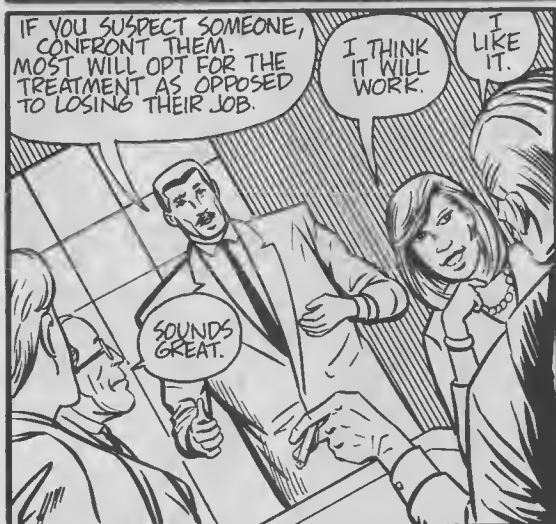
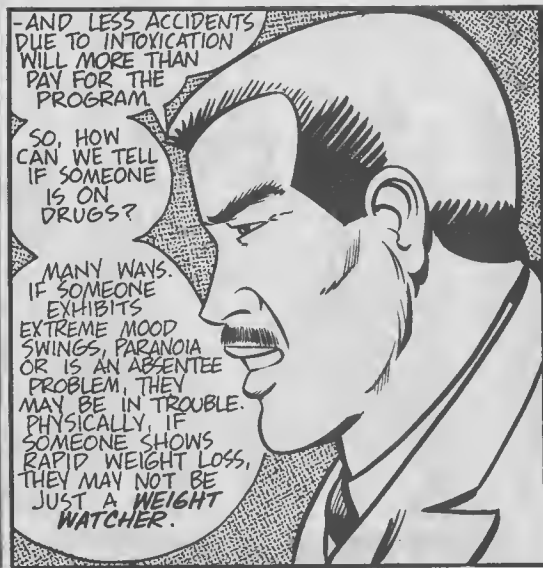


WHAT WE WANT IS TO ELIMINATE THIS DRUG USE

WHEN A DRUG IS DETECTED, WE WILL HELP THAT PERSON. WITH A DETOX PROGRAM. THIS IS A PROGRAM OF AID, NOT PUNISHMENT.



THE ONLY TIME SOMEONE WILL LOSE THEIR JOB IS THROUGH REPEATED USE OR REFUSING AID WHEN IT'S NECESSARY.







ONCE THE HELICOPTER HAS LANDED, MEN WORK QUICKLY TO UNLOAD ITS ILLICIT CARGO.











OKAY, BUDDY.  
NICE AND SLOW.



THIS IS GREAT.

I'M GONNA  
KILL ME  
A  
CRACKBUSTER.

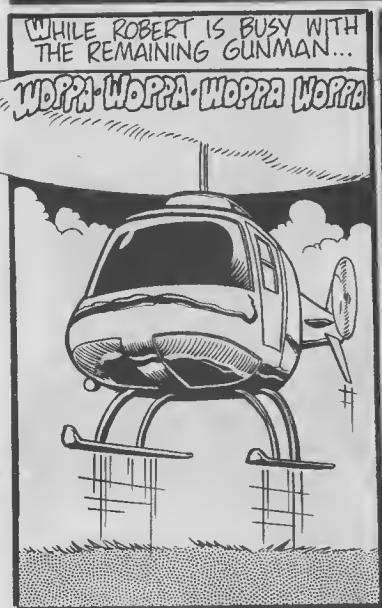


ROBERT MOVES  
HIS HAND ALONG  
THE GROUND  
SO HIS CAPTOR  
CAN NOT SEE.

AND WITH ONE  
SWIFT MOVEMENT...



HEY...!!!



WHILE ROBERT IS BUSY WITH  
THE REMAINING GUNMAN...

WOPPA-WOPPA-WOPPA WOPPA







YOU DON'T NEED THIS ANYMORE. I WONDER HOW ALEX MADE OUT.

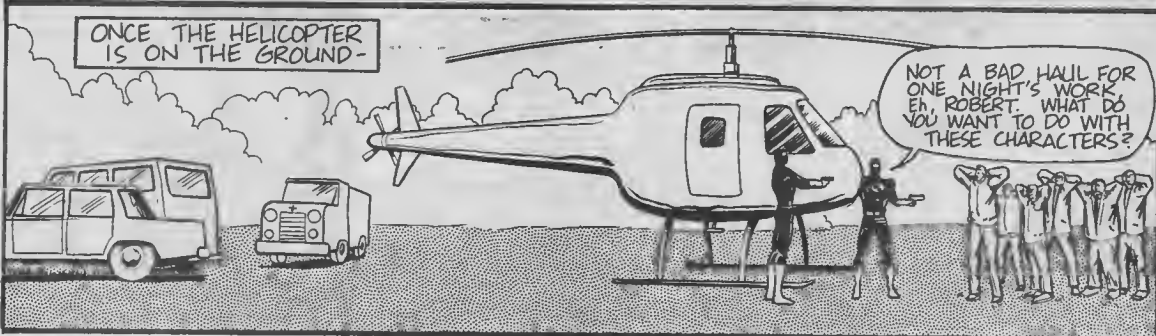


HEY, DOWN THERE! YOU TAKIN' A COFFEE BREAK, OR WHAT?

HOLY C--



I THINK THE PILOT GOT THE MESSAGE- WE LAND THIS COPTER WITH HIM, OR WITHOUT HIM!



ONCE THE HELICOPTER IS ON THE GROUND-

NOT A BAD HAUL FOR ONE NIGHT'S WORK. EH, ROBERT. WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO WITH THESE CHARACTERS?



I THINK WE OUGHT TO LET OUR GIRLFRIENDS WALK HOME TO DADDY.

WAIT A MINUTE!



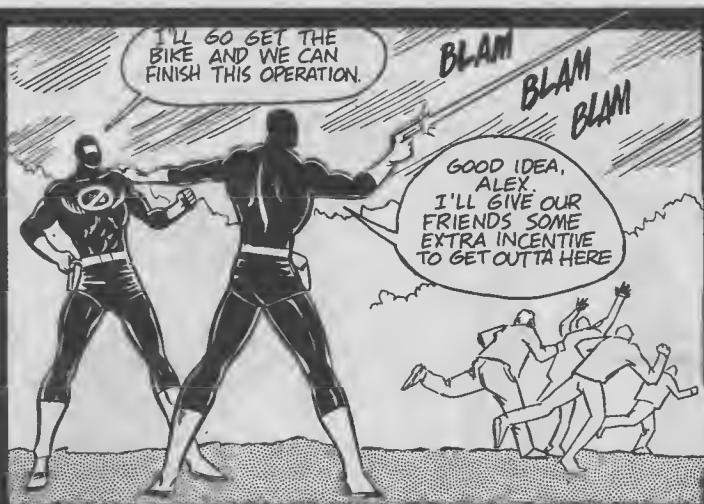
YOU CAN'T EXPECT US TO WALK OUTTA HERE. WE'RE FIFTY MILES FROM ANYTHING!



WOAAA!



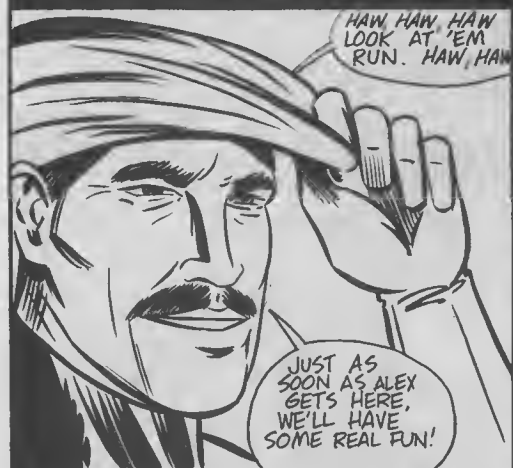
I THINK YOU UNDERSTAND MY MESSAGE. EH... BOYS?



I'LL GO GET THE BIKE AND WE CAN FINISH THIS OPERATION.

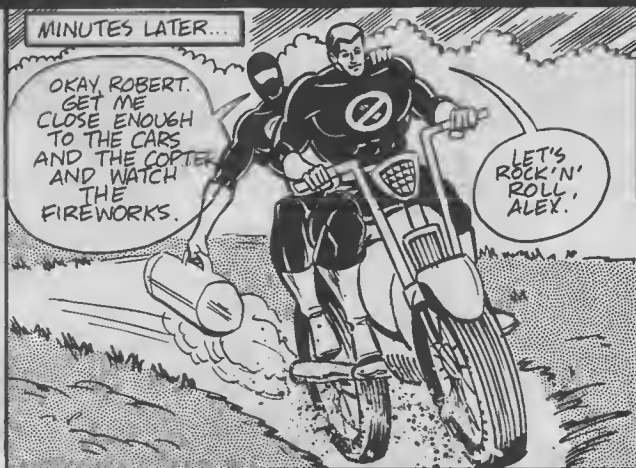
BLAM  
BLAM  
BLAM

GOOD IDEA, ALEX. I'LL GIVE OUR FRIENDS SOME EXTRA INCENTIVE TO GET OUTTA HERE



HAW HAW HAW  
LOOK AT 'EM RUN. HAW HAW

JUST AS SOON AS ALEX GETS HERE, WE'LL HAVE SOME REAL FUN!



MINUTES LATER...

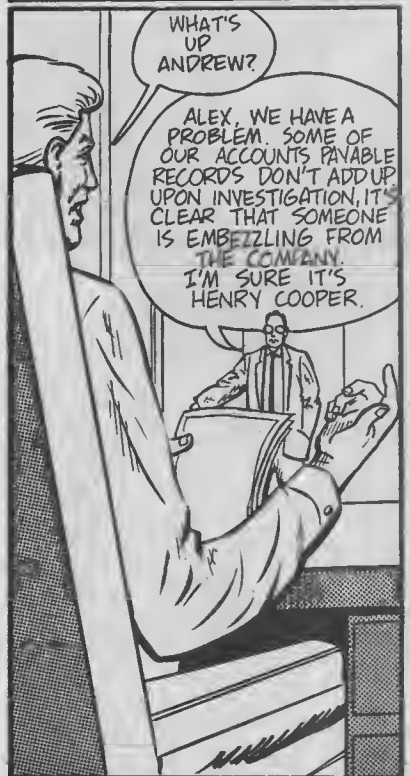
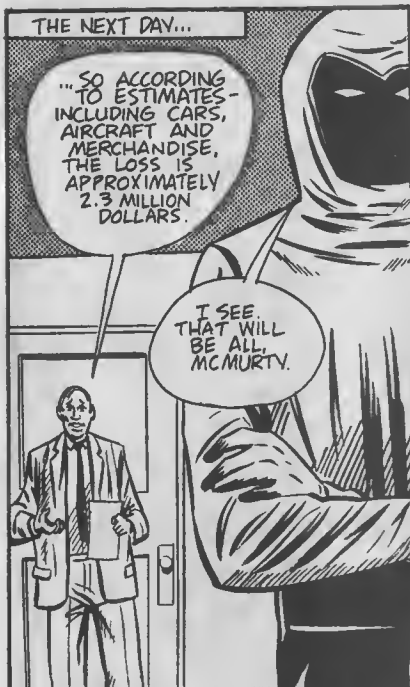
OKAY ROBERT. GET ME CLOSE ENOUGH TO THE CARS AND THE COPTER AND WATCH THE FIREWORKS.

LET'S ROCK 'N' ROLL, ALEX.



BAHOOSH  
CRACKLEDOON  
VHDOON  
POHNN  
THOON  
CRACKLE  
BRANNN

Wahooo!





MINUTES LATER...

GOOD AFTERNOON, HANK. I UNDERSTAND WE MAY HAVE A SMALL PROBLEM.

LOOK, MR. WILSON. I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING. I DIDN'T EMBEZZLE ANY MONEY.

IT MUST HAVE BEEN ELLEN DITTOWSKI, MY ASSISTANT. SHE'S ALWAYS BEEN JEALOUS OF ME.

OR MAYBE JEFF RASKY. HE DOESN'T LIKE ME.

I DON'T KNOW WHY EVERYONE'S AGAINST ME. I HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING WRONG. I'M TELLING YOU SOMEONE IN MY DEPARTMENT IS SETTING ME UP!!!

C'MON, HANK. YOU'RE THE PICTURE OF A COCAINE ADDICT.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU ARE TALKING A...

STOP IT! YOU'RE HOOKED. DON'T KEEP LYING TO YOURSELF

YOU'RE CRAZY! I'M NO ADDICT. I DO A LINE RECREATIONALLY, NOW AND AGAIN... TO WIND DOWN. I'VE GOT A LOT OF PRESSURE ON ME!

YOU CAN RATIONALIZE ALL YOU WANT THE FACT IS YOU ARE HOOKED!

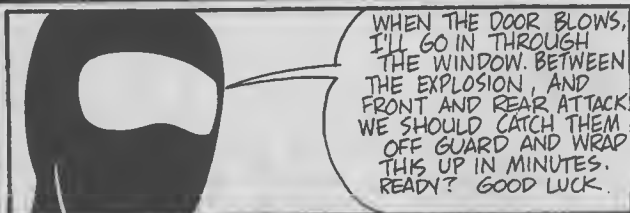
I'M NOT AN ADDICT! I'M N-NOT - I'M KNOW. OH, I DON'T KNOW. OH GEEZ...

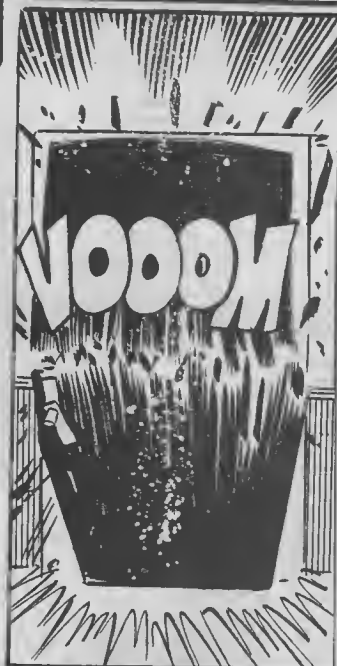
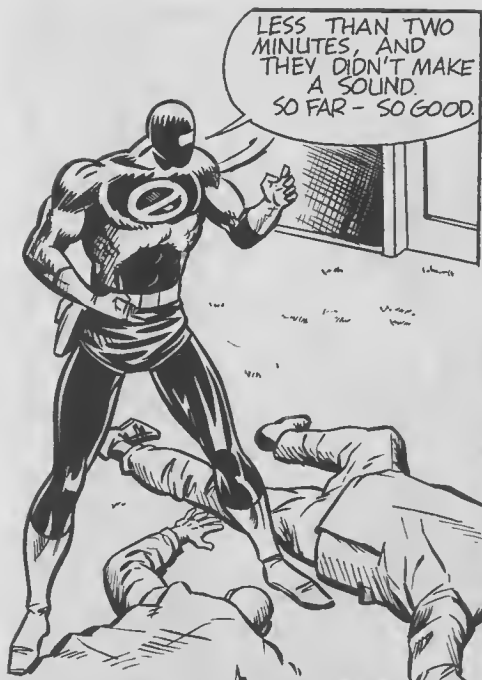
I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT. I STARTED OUT SO SIMPLY - JUST A TOOT AT PARTIES - OH GOD, I'M OUT OF CONTROL. OH... OH WHAT HAVE I DONE?

HANK, TAKE IT EASY WE'RE HERE TO HELP YOU. I WANT YOU TO GO INTO OUR NEW DETOX PROGRAM, OKAY? WHEN YOU COME OUT, YOUR JOB WILL BE WAITING FOR YOU.

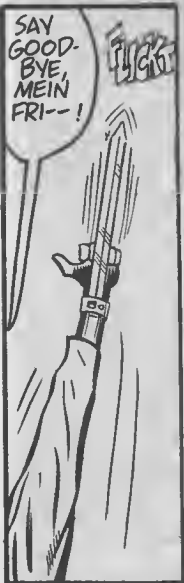
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT. HANK COOPER... DO YOU THINK YOU CAN TRUST HIM TO COME BACK TO WORK AFTER HE CLEANS UP?

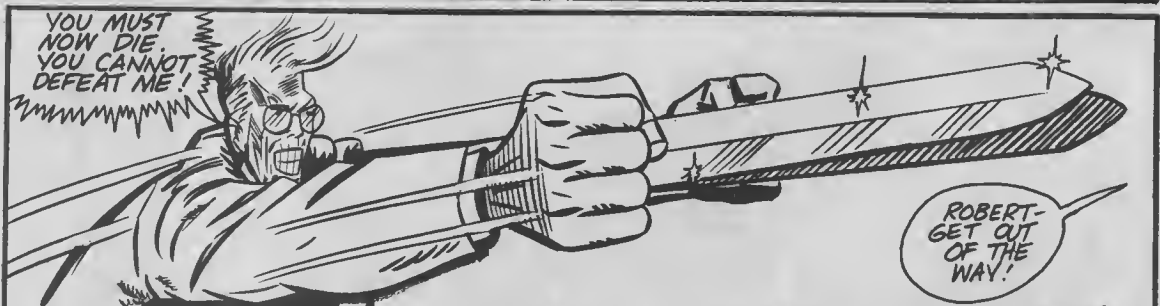
DON'T WORRY. IF ALL GOES WELL, AND HE DOES COME BACK, YOU WON'T HAVE TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT HIS STEALING. HANK IS A GOOD MAN. HE'LL BE OKAY.

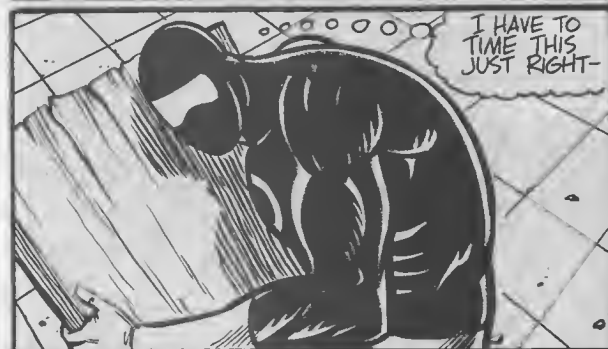




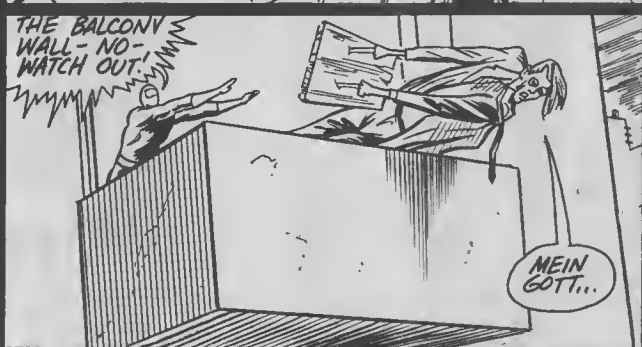












A FEW DAYS LATER, IN  
FRONT OF AN APARTMENT  
HOUSE, ON EAST 82nd STREET...

HEY, DON'T  
HOG THE  
JOINT!  
PASS IT  
OVER HERE.

ONCE TAKING  
POSSESSION OF  
THE JOINT...

LATER, THAT NIGHT...



"...SO, ONCE AGAIN, OUR STORY, TONIGHT, IS THAT THREE YOUTHS WERE GUNNED DOWN, IN FRONT OF THIS APARTMENT HOUSE. WITNESSES SAY TWO COSTUMED MEN PULLED OUT AUTOMATIC WEAPONS, AND SHOT THESE KIDS, WHILE THEY WERE SMOKING WHAT APPEARED TO BE MARIJUANA. TOM..."

"THANK YOU, LIZ. THIS JUST IN - AUTHORITIES SAY THE TWO COSTUMED MEN HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AS THE SELF-STYLED VIGILANTIES THE CRACKBUSTERS."

"WE NOW ARE GOING LIVE, TO CITY HALL, WHERE POLICE COMMISSIONER RYAN, IS HOLDING A PRESS CONFERENCE."



"WE ARE CURRENTLY INVESTIGATING THIS INCIDENT. IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN THIS DEPARTMENT'S POLICY TO DISCOURAGE ANY VIGILANTE ACTION."

"THESE EVENTS HAVE CONFIRMED WHAT I HAVE BEEN SAYING, SINCE THE BEGINNING - THE CRACK-BUSTERS ARE DANGEROUS INDIVIDUALS WHO SHOULD BE SHUNNED RATHER THAN ENCOURAGED!"

"EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, I HAVE ISSUED ORDERS TO ALL LAW ENFORCERS TO APPREHEND THESE CRACKBUSTERS."



"THEY ARE TO BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS..."

"...AND ANY FORCE DEEMED NECESSARY WILL BE APPROVED !!!"

NEXT ISSUE...

**NOWHERE  
TO  
TURN**





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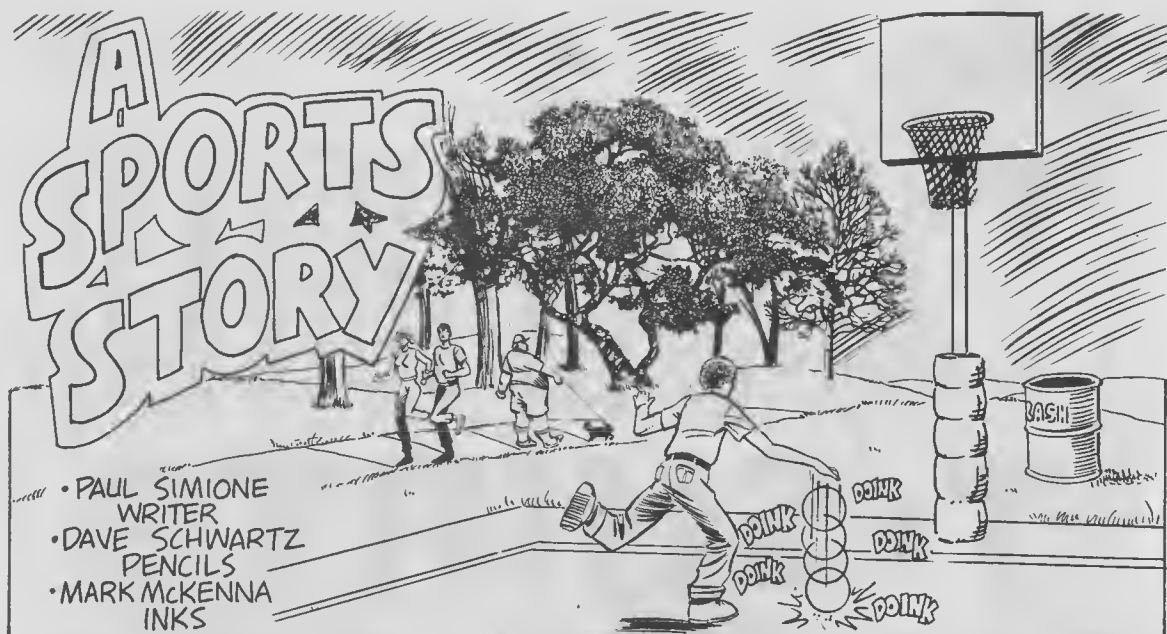
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# A SPORTS STORY

- PAUL SIMIONE  
WRITER
- DAVE SCHWARTZ  
PENCILS
- MARK MCKENNA  
INKS

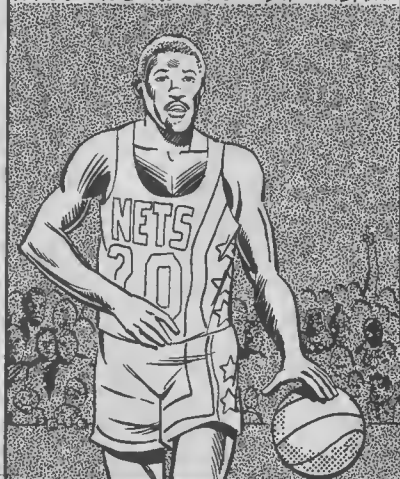


YEAH, I'VE THOUGHT ABOUT DOING CRACK. A LOTTA GUYS WHO HANG AROUND HERE DO IT. THEY SAY IT'S GREAT. THEY SAY ALL THE PROS USE IT. THEY THINK THAT'S WHAT MAKES THE PROS SO GOOD.

"THEN I THINK OF MICHAEL RAY RICHARDSON. HE WAS PLAYIN' FOR THE JERSEY NETS - PULLING DOWN THE BIG BUCKS - MADE THE NBA ALL-STAR TEAM."

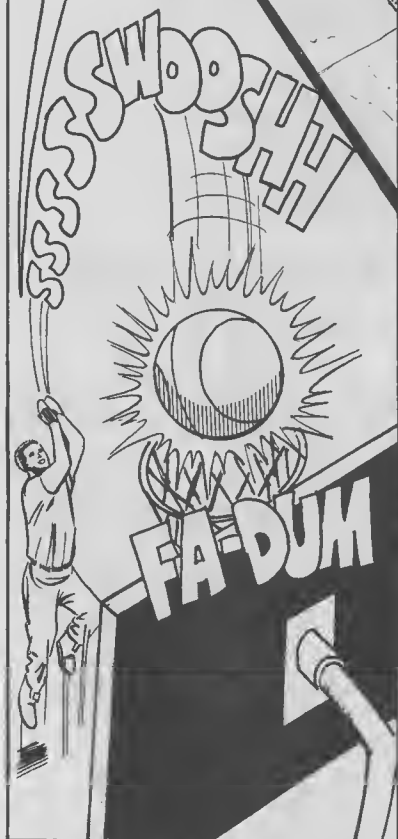
NOW, HE GOT KICKED OUTTA THE NBA, FOR USING COKE. HE'S TRYING TO HOOK-UP WITH A TEAM IN ITALY.

ASK HIM IF HE THINKS COKE WAS WORTH IT!



"NOW, CAUSE OF DRUGS, THE ONLY WAY THEY SEE AN NBA GAME, IS IF THEY BUY A TICKET. DO YOU THINK THEY FEEL IT WAS WORTH IT?"

"LEWIS LLOYD AND MITCHELL WIGGINS PLAYED FOR THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP, LAST YEAR."

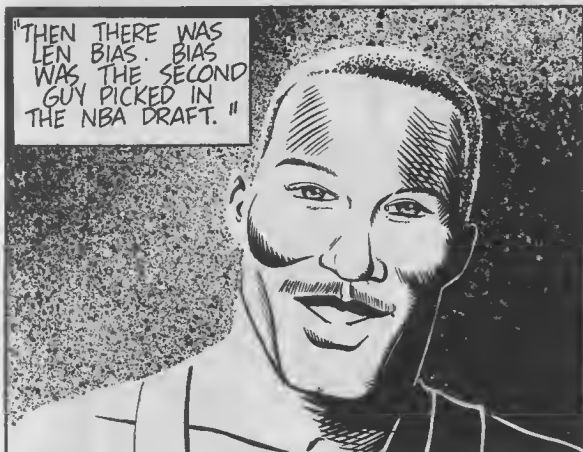


"OF COURSE, DRUGS  
AREN'T JUST IN  
BASKETBALL..."

"...STEVE HOWE  
WAS ROOKIE  
OF THE YEAR  
IN THE  
NATIONAL LEAGUE,  
A COUPLE OF  
YEARS AGO.



"THEN THERE WAS  
LEN BIAS. BIAS  
WAS THE SECOND  
GUY PICKED IN  
THE NBA DRAFT."



"DON ROGERS WAS ONE OF THE BEST  
DEFENSIVE BACKS IN THE NFL."



"YOU CAN'T ASK THEM WHAT THEY  
THINK ABOUT DRUGS - CAUSE  
DRUGS KILLED 'EM!"



SURE, I  
KNOW THE  
CHANCES  
OF ME  
PLAYING  
PRO-BALL  
ARE SLIM...



"...BUT, I'M ALREADY A SUPER-  
STAR, YOU CAN BE ONE TOO -  
JUST MAKE AN INFORMED  
DECISION - SAY NO TO DRUGS!"





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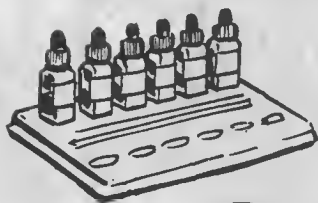
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# CRYPTIC TALES



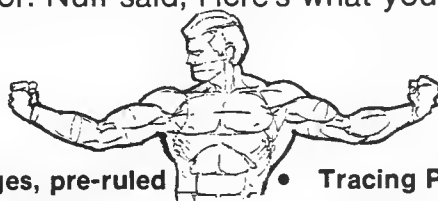
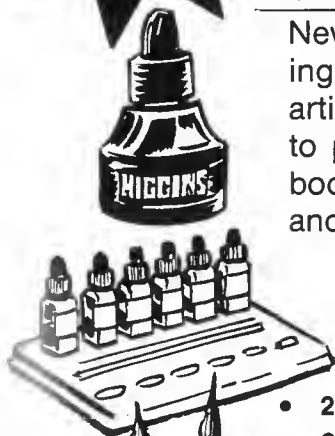
**WARNING:** The contents of this comic book may be hazardous to your health. Squeamish, scared, wimps stay away!



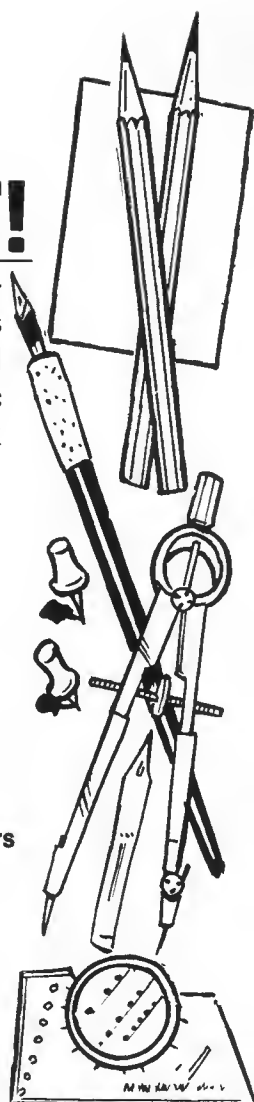
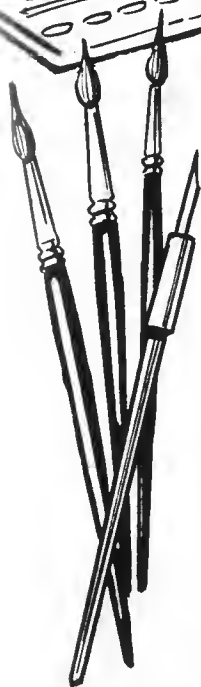
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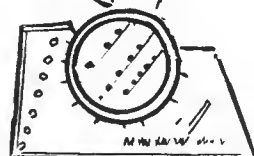
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I JUST  
WANTED YOU  
TO SEE WHAT  
EVERYONE  
IS SAYING  
ABOUT US!

HEY -  
WHA'DA'YA  
THINK  
VER DOIN'?

- **THE WALL STREET JOURNAL**—educating teenagers about drug abuse
- **THE DETROIT FREE PRESS**—a new comic book hero has leaped onto the scene
- **NEWSDAY** (Community Affairs Dept.)—a great idea!
- **THE TORONTO SUN**—a U.S. publisher launches a war against the killer drug crack
- **THE PITTSBURGH PRESS**—adolescent entertainment that mixes a dose of education
- **VIRGINIA DAILY PRESS**—a unique method of confronting the drug problem
- **TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT**—straight forward and hard lined
- **LOS ANGELES DAILY NEWS**—educating youngsters about the dangers of drug abuse

**CRACKBUSTERS**  
FRIEND OR FOE!